



Chloride and Total Dissolved Solids Monitoring Study in the Colorado River

Water Body	Colorado River Below E.V. Spence Reservoir (Segment 1426)
Location	Robert Lee
River Basin	Colorado River Basin
Contractor	Upper Colorado River Authority (UCRA)
Project Period	January 18, 2017 – November 30, 2019
Project Total	\$190,602 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

Background

The Colorado River below E.V. Spence Reservoir is a 66-mile freshwater stream. In 2000, this segment of river was placed on the State's 303(d) list because it did not meet the water quality standard for total dissolved solids (TDS), sulfates, and chloride. High concentrations of these salts may negatively affect uses of the waterbody. In April 2007, two Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) were completed and approved for Segment 1426. The goals of the TMDLs were to identify sources of high salts, and improve water quality in the river by implementing management measures. The stakeholder driven Implementation Plan (I-Plan) document was approved by the TCEQ in October 2007.

Project Description

This project will implement one of the recommended control actions of the TMDL I-Plan. Since 2009, the chloride and TDS concentration levels have increased in samples collected through the Clean Rivers Program routine monitoring. This project will seek to identify the source of the increasing chloride and TDS concentrations by performing a field investigation.

If causality can be established and linked to an activity(ies) and/or source(s) of the chloride and TDS impairment in this assessment unit, then an abatement and/or remediation plan will be devised. Since the escalating chloride and TDS levels in this assessment unit are the cause of the Segment 1426 impairment, a resolution to this issue will enhance the results achieved by the TMDL I-Plan.

Current Status

The contract has executed.



Public Participation

For more information about stakeholder meetings and public outreach events and materials please visit <http://www.ucratx.org/edout.html>.

For More Information

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Project Highlights

- 01/2017 – Contract executed.